

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2012 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #48

Summer Announcement #42, Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C Subsistence Fishing

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The Chinook salmon run continues to track considerably below historical averages. The Pilot Station sonar cumulative passage estimate of approximately 100,100 Chinook salmon through July 10 is well below the historical average of 140,000 for this date, and is also below the average passage estimates at this point for late run years, of approximately 125,500.

Consistent with preseason management strategies, subsistence fishing periods have already been cancelled in lower river districts and similar actions are being implemented in Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C.

Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, & 5-C (from Illinois Creek upstream to regulatory markers 2 miles downstream of Waldron Creek): This area includes the communities of Tanana and Rampart as well as the area near the Yukon River Bridge. Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C are currently closed to conserve Chinook salmon. The department will notify fishermen by July 13 concerning the next subsistence salmon fishing period and schedule for Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a fishing permit is required to fish for all species in the portion of Subdistrict 5-C and 5-D from the western most tip of Garnet Island upstream to the Dall River, and from the upstream mouth of 22-Mile Slough to the US/Canada Border. Subsistence fishermen outside of the permit area are encouraged to fill out their subsistence salmon catch calendars. Calendars are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Fairbanks.

In District 5, fishermen may use gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller during open subsistence salmon fishing periods.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fish wheels may not be operated and gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches and a length greater than 60 feet must be removed from the water.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates are available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call (907) 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at (907) 949-1320 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at (907) 455-1845.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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